Dieso

EVENING BULLETIN Philadelphia 3/16/65

Sit-ins at Liberty Bell Shrine Bring Sharp Protests

dents" is the crowning blow to real civil rights. The authorities at Selma cannot be impressed as the rest of the world cannot by wanton disregard of lawful authority evidenced by refusal to even limit the number of demonstrators at Independence Hall.

If our cradle of liberty is to be periodically used as a flophouse to further the cause of liberty, please close it. Too many men have bled and died in forthright demonstrations of defense of freedom, and this defense did not include the license of disobedient juveniles to make their own rules. The rule of anarchy will be that generation's legacy.

Let the same diligence be applied to education by these students and the cause of equality can be more realistically advanced.

Leonard E. Tully

Students Challenged

I wonder just what is the purpose of college students staging a sit-in at the Liberty Bell.

Since I don't agree with such doings many people call me anti-Negro. I feel there is too much to do to help the Negro in Philadelphia for any of us to waste our times parading in Selma or sitting around the Liberty Bell.

If these students are not publicity hounds and truly want to help the Negro may I offer this challenge? For every hour that they have sat down around the Liberty Bell will they join in giving the same amount of hours to painting and cleaning homes of poor Negro families that I know? I will join them every Sunday in this project and will attempt to furnish the paint and cleaning materials for the job. By this I mean, if they have sat ten hours at the Liberty Bell they will spend ten hours

Thanking you for any consid- tisan political purposes. eration you give this offer, I re-

Jack J. Glickstein

Made Into Flophouse

Participants in the misnamed civil rights movement have turned Independence Hall into a flophouse with the blessing of the acting superintendent, who does "not believe American citizens should be forcibly removed from the Liberty Bell while they are giving peaceful expression to their beliefs."

What a grotesque interpretation of a patriotic symbol! Would he permit members of white citizens councils to express in the same way their belief in the tenth article of the Bill of Rights? Would he permit members of the John Birch Society to express their belief in our American traditions by taking over the Hall and staying there overnight? Indeed, could any mere taxpaying citizen, who had no political ax whatever to grind, sleep there overnight simply because he wanted to choose that peaceful way of expressing his patriotism? Let us apply the laws evenly without respect to race

Dennis D. Murphy

Special Interests?

It seems strange to note that when a law-abiding citizen visits Independence Hall, in order to see the Liberty Bell, if he has not taken his hat off within two seconds after entering the door, he is yelled at by a guard, in a nasty tone of voice: Take your hat off!"

However, a news picture on March 13 shows demonstrators lying or sleeping right in front of the Liberty Bell, showing no respect whatever for it. Nothing seemed to be done to correct this situation.

F. C. S.

Seeds of Lawlessness

Seeds of lawlessness are being sown not only by the exhibitionists who became involved in the civil rights passion, often for reasons far removed from this just cause, but also by some public authorities who hesitate to act in illegal sit-ins and other demonstrations.

A good example was provided by the sit-ins and sleep-ins

The desecration of the Li- on the cleaning project spread or color and stop this exploita- at the revered Liberty Bell. One berty Bell by so-called "stu- over a period of three weeks."

The desecration of the Li- on the cleaning project spread or color and stop this exploita- at the revered Liberty Bell. One official there said he saw no harm in permitting the stu-dents to remain in Independence Hall overnight.

Frankly, I think most of these students are not sincerely concerned with civil rights. They are out for a thrill or at-tention and public officials who appease them are themselves contributing to future defiance of constituted authority and disrespect for our traditions.

Joseph W. Dragonetti